



## Find Your Ancestors In the Irish Census

A census is a count and description of the population of an area. When available, census records can provide names, ages, occupations, marital statuses, birthplaces, and family members' relationships. Censuses can also provide clues that lead to other records. Census records began in Ireland in 1821. The 1901 and 1911 censuses are the only nationwide census records available for all of Ireland.

1. Go to [www.census.nationalarchives.ie/search/](http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/search/)
2. To the right of Census year choose the census year you would like to search. The 1901 and 1911 censuses include all of the population of Ireland during those years. The census records from 1821-1851 are partial census indexes.
3. Add an ancestor's surname
4. Add the forename or first name of an ancestor
5. Choose a county from the drop down menu.
6. The Townland/street, DED, age and gender are optional. If you have specific information, add it to the boxes.
7. Click search, then click on the blue surname or forename to see the household.
8. On the top right is a box you can check with Show all information. This will add occupation, literacy, Irish language, marital status and specified illnesses to the other census categories.
9. Scroll down to View census images and click on Household Return (Form A) to see a pdf version of the census. You can also view the Enumerator's abstract, House and Building Return (Form B1), and Out-Offices and Farm-Steadings Return (Form B2).
10. Click on the + sign at the top of the page to make the census larger. You can print or save the census image.